

Dumont Shade Tree Commission Minutes  
04/16/12, 7:30PM  
Dumont Senior Center

The Dumont Shade Tree Commission has complied with the open public meeting act, having sent notice to The Record, Ridgewood news and filed with the Municipal Clerk and posted on the Borough's Official Bulletin Board.

Attendance: Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Larry Tobias, Tom Fisichella, Rafael Riquelme, Sally Tayeb, Ryan Metz, Councilman Bill Brophy

Mayor Kelly re-appointed Abbie, and Sally as an alternate. Ryan Metz was appointed as a new Commissioner. Sally resigned as President. A motion was made by Sally and seconded by Rafael to select Ray Slaman as President. Motion passed.

3/19/12 meeting minutes were approved by all commissioners.

**Tree Maintenance:** DSTC Bucket truck is still out of order. DPW rented a bucket truck to do tree maintenance around town.

- So far 34 tree removals this year. There were 27 complaints so far for 2012.
- There is a need for a stump grinder. Commission will discuss with John Perkins for funding.
- Locust location is pending review.

**I-Tree:** Larry discussed a Virginia Tech Study using analysis software called iTree Eco. The study suggested trees of our residential areas, schoolyards, parks and along downtown streets are more than just pretty niceties; they are necessities. The analysis show that there are more than 3.4 million trees in the five communities surveyed and they provide more than \$7 million in annual benefits. Trees create shade and it reduces heat which reduces energy cost. A NYC 2006 study suggested that there was a net annual benefit from trees of \$100 Million. This was compiled using energy savings, storm water runoff, carbon credits, property values etc.

**Adopt-A-Tree:** Spring planting has begun. A Silver Bell in the arboretum will be replaced by Crape Myrtle. This tree will be used for the Girl Scout 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary ceremony on Arbor Day. This year all Dumont schools will participate in the Adopt-a-Tree program by planting one tree in each school. This was approved by Mr.Triggiano. The Commission is working closely with Kevin Dunne, Director of Grounds of Dumont Schools. Planting for schools trees is planned for early May. The homeowner at 7 Wilcox Ave. is requesting an adopt-a-tree planting.

**Dumont Friends of the Shade Tree:** Ryan is to register the non for profit and tax exempt 501(c) (3). The Board of Director for the non-profit is the DST commissioners. When the paper is completed, a bank account will be opened and donations will be accepted.

**Brick Walk:** Still pending. Waiting for the approval from the County. Mr. Perkins attended a County meeting to discuss project.

**Arbor Day:** Rafael and Abbie to pick-up all the art work from all Dumont schools and Library on Friday. Rafael, Sally, and Abbie to meet on Saturday April 21 at the Library to set-up all the art in the display case. Sally to bring laptop to enter all data. Rafael, Abbie, Larry and the two volunteers to meet on Monday April 23 at 4:45PM to judge the art/photography/poetry/videos at the Library.

Need to bring the display from the library to Arboretum on Arbor Day. Set-up time for Arbor Day will be around 10am. Need to meet early that day to make a hole for the tree planting. Tent to be set up by Ray. Need tables for display and the two banners. Sally to pick up cookies and water for Arbor Day from Stop and Shop. The Boy Scout color guard (Sal Maurice), Matt DeMarco, singer for the American Anthem and Matt Kalamaris for sound equipment has been contacted. This year recipients are the Girls Scout for their 100 years. Abbie to notify them. Bergen County Realtors Ass. will like to help out and donate for the ceremony. A press release will be issued to advertise the Arbor Day Celebration for April 28 at the Arboretum. Rafael to distribute Arbor Day t-shirts to BOE, all school administrators, Library staff, and DPW staff. Abbie to distribute to Mayor and Council and sponsors. Rafael to type all certificates and Sally will print them. All participants will receive a certificate and gift pack. Abbie to purchase them. Tara to bring new Tree USA flag. Need to cordon off parking area across Italian Connection for that morning. Need to email and call all participants to remind them to attend Arbor Day from 1-3pm.

**New Business:**

- Looking for volunteers to help out on the Dumont tree survey. The commissions' goal is to survey all the trees in Dumont. Discussion followed on ways to accomplish this goal.
- New committee assignment was discussed. Tree maintenance will be spearheaded by Tom and Larry. Adopt a tree committee will be comprised of Ray, Tom, Ryan and Rafael.
- Discussed Dumont Day and tent location.

**Memorial Parade-** We need to purchase seed packets to pass during parade.

Meeting adjourned 9:00PM